

MONTANA & BORDERING STATES SEASONAL LIVESTOCK GRAZING PERMITS **“CROSS-BORDER GRAZING PERMITS” AND “COMMUTER GRAZING PERMITS”**

Seasonal livestock grazing permits are designed to facilitate the movement of livestock for seasonal grazing purposes, without compromising Montana’s or our neighboring states’ animal health status. Beginning in 2001, the following two types of seasonal grazing programs became available for use by qualifying producers:

(1) **“Cross-border grazing permits” and** (2) **“Commuter grazing permits”**. The following are the requirements for participating in these seasonal grazing programs:

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: (For “Cross-border grazing permits” and “Commuter grazing permits”)

- 1) Livestock must originate from an established breeding herd (excluding steers and spayed heifers) and has not been assembled within the past six months.
 - 2) “M” branded (Mexico origin steers and spayed heifers) are not eligible for participation.
 - 3) Border livestock shall not be commingled with or have exposure to, as determined by the State Veterinarian, other livestock other than the contact or exposure which occurs during normal farming/ranching operation, unless the other livestock are also approved “Cross-border grazers”, “Commuter grazers”, or it has been documented that the commingling cattle are all official Brucella calfhood vaccinates and are of equivalent health and disease testing status.
 - a. If the above border livestock have contact or exposure to, as determined by the State Veterinarian, animals other than the contact which occurs during normal farming/ranching operations, the State Veterinarian may require such border livestock to be tested for disease and/or quarantined (held separated and apart) from other livestock and tested, due to risk of disease or risk of disease exposure, prior to entering Montana) to protect the animal and public health of Montana.
 - b. Contact with or exposure to other animals at exhibitions, shows, fairs, rodeos, or roping events is not considered to be normal farming/ranching contact with or exposure to other animals.
 - 4) Seasonal Grazing Permits will be valid for **one grazing season only** (Up to 9 Months)
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II. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS – FOR “CROSS-BORDER GRAZING PERMITS”:

- 1) Livestock owner owns, leases or rents land in Montana that **is contiguous with and/or immediately adjacent to land owned, leased or rented (by the same livestock owner) in a state that borders Montana.**
- 2) Cattle (and horses used for handling permitted border livestock) which permanently reside on a farm/ranch which is contiguous with and immediately adjacent to the State border and are moved interstate directly from that farm/ranch (described in the cross-border grazing permit) to another farm/ranch (described in the cross-border grazing permit) which is contiguous with the farm/ranch of origin and immediately adjacent to the State border and are returned interstate directly to the farm/ranch of origin in the course of normal farming/ranching operations, without change of ownership, may be considered to be cross-border livestock. For the purposes of this paragraph, "interstate directly" means moved (without offloading or unreasonable detour) from/to the farms/ranches described in the cross-border grazing permit.
- 3) **Permit:** Issued by destination state’s State Veterinarian’s office prior to movement of the livestock.
- 4) **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection:** (CVI- issued by your attending veterinarian) – **May be required by destination state (not required by Montana).** Please contact the office of the state veterinarian at the destination state to determine if they require a CVI.
- 5) **Identification:** All livestock must be identified on the “Cross-Border Livestock Grazing Permit” application or the CVI (if required) by one of the following:
 - a. **Brand;** or
 - b. **Official USDA identification tag;** or
 - c. **Registration tattoo.**
- 6) **Official Calfhood Vaccinates (OCV)-** All sexually intact female cattle 4 months of age or older must be **OCV**.
- 7) **Brand inspection.**

- 8) **Montana Re-entry: Permit and Brand Inspection** - Montana origin livestock may return to Montana at the end of the grazing period by obtaining a Montana import permit, within 10 days prior to re-entry (406-444-2976), and a brand inspection, provided this "Cross-border Grazing Permit" has been validated, with the following exception(s):
- All sexually intact heifer calves 4 months of age and older returning without their dams must be OCV prior to entry **OR** will be quarantined upon arrival and must be officially Brucellosis vaccinated within 30 days after entry into Montana.
 - All sexually intact heifer calves less than 4 months of age and returning without their dams will be quarantined upon arrival and must be officially Brucellosis vaccinated within 6 months after entry into Montana.
- 9) **Horses: Specific Requirements for Horses used for handling "Cross-Border Grazing livestock":**
- Permit** (issued by destination state's State Veterinarian's office) prior to initial movement of horses.
 - Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)**- issued by your attending veterinarian) – May be required by the destination state (not required by Montana). Please contact the office of the state veterinarian at the destination state to determine if they require a CVI.
 - EIA Testing:** May be required by the destination state (not required by Montana)
 - Brand Inspection**
 - Identification:** All horses used for handling permitted livestock must be individually identified on the "Cross-Border Grazing Permit" application and on the CVI (if required).
 - Horses used for ranching purposes may travel between Montana and the State the cattle are grazing in with a validated "Cross-Border Grazing Permit" (Must meet requirements a, b, c, d, and e above to be validated.)
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III. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS – FOR "COMMUTER GRAZING PERMITS":

- Livestock owner owns, leases, or rents land in Montana that **IS NOT contiguous with and/or immediately adjacent to land owned, leased or rented (by the same livestock owner) in a state that borders Montana.**
 - Cattle (and horses used for handling of permitted commuter livestock) moved interstate directly from a farm/ranch (described in the commuter grazing permit) to another farm/ranch (described in the commuter grazer permit) and returned interstate directly to the farm/ranch of origin in the course of normal farming/ranching operations, without change of ownership, may be considered commuter livestock. For the purposes of this paragraph, "interstate directly" means moved (without offloading or unreasonable detour) from/to the farms/ranches described in the commuter grazer permit.
 - Permit:** Issued by destination state's State Veterinarian's office prior to movement of the livestock.
 - Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI):** Issued by your attending veterinarian.
 - Identification:** All livestock must be identified on the "Commuter Grazing Permit" application and the CVI by one of the following:
 - Brand;** or
 - Official USDA identification tag;** or
 - Registration tattoo.**
 - Official Calfhood Vaccinates (OCV)**- All sexually intact female cattle 4 months of age or older must be OCV.
 - Brand inspection.**
- 8) **Montana Re-entry: Permit and Brand Inspection** - Montana origin livestock may return to Montana at the end of the grazing period by obtaining a Montana import permit, within 10 days prior to re-entry (406-444-2976), and a brand inspection, provided this "Commuter Grazing Permit" has been validated, with the following exception(s):
- All sexually intact heifer calves 4 months of age and older returning without their dams must be OCV prior to entry **OR** will be quarantined upon arrival and must be officially Brucellosis vaccinated within 30 days after entry into Montana.
 - All sexually intact heifer calves less than 4 months of age and returning without their dams will be quarantined upon arrival and must be officially Brucellosis vaccinated within 6 months after entry into Montana.

- 9) **Horses: Specific Requirements for Horses used for handling “Commuter Grazing” livestock:**
- a. **Permit** (issued by destination state’s State Veterinarian’s office) prior to initial movement of horses.
 - b. **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI):** Issued by your attending veterinarian prior to initial movement of horses.
 - c. **EIA Testing:** Negative EIA test within 12 months, with the following exceptions:
 - i. Nursing foals accompanied by EIA negative dam.
 - ii. Equines which remain, **at all times** (except for transport between farms/ranches described in the commuter grazer permit), on the premises described in the commuter grazer permit.
 - d. **Brand Inspection**
 - e. **Identification:** All horses used for handling permitted livestock must be individually identified on the “Commuter Grazing Permit” application and on the CVI.
 - f) Horses used for ranching purposes may travel between Montana and the State the cattle are grazing in with a validated “Commuter Grazing Permit” (Must meet requirements a, b, c, d, and e above to be validated.)
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ADDITIONAL DESTINATION STATE REQUIREMENTS:

Wyoming: Please contact the office of the Wyoming state veterinarian for additional information (307-777-7515)

- 1) All non-virgin leased bulls must have three (3) negative Trichomoniasis tests, 7-21 days apart, prior to entry into Wyoming.
- 2) All non-virgin bulls used in common grazing situations (livestock from 2 or more owners in same pasture/allotment) must have three (3) negative Trichomoniasis tests, 7-21 days apart, prior to entry into Wyoming.
- 3) All non-virgin bulls entering Wyoming to be sold for breeding purposes must have three (3) negative Trichomoniasis tests, 7-21 days apart, prior to entry into Wyoming.
- 4) All non-virgin bulls owned by livestock owner (seasonal grazing permittee) must have one (1) negative Trichomoniasis test prior to entry into Wyoming. (No commingling of cattle with other owners).

Idaho: Please contact the office of the Idaho state veterinarian for additional information (208-332-8540)

- 1) All non-virgin bulls must have one (1) negative Trichomoniasis test within 45 days prior to entry into Idaho.

North Dakota: Please contact the office of the ND state veterinarian for additional information (701-328-2655)

South Dakota: Please contact the office of the SD state veterinarian for additional information (605-773-3321)